WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Breaking of Indian Flag Vessels under open General Licence

@*205. SHRI .M. S. GURUPADA-SWAMY:

DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Gov ernment have decided to bring the breaking of Indian Flag Vessels un der Open General Licence;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) in what manner the proposal is likely to help the shipping industry?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARD: (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The import of Indian Flag Vessels for breaking can be made under Open General Licence by the units registered for ship breaking subject to the condition that they shall produce to the Custom autho rities at the time of clearance a certificate from D.' G. Shipping, Bombay, authorising the scrapping of the vessel.

(c) The above decision has streamlined the procedure for quick scrapping of old vessels to enable the shipping industry to make fresh investments on modernisation of existing fleet thereby making it more competitive.

Pension to Freedom Fighters

•206. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be Pleased to state:

(a)'what is the number of applications **ceived from freedom fighters who participated in the agitation against the feudal rule of the Nizam of Hyderabad;

(b) the number of applications for pension cleared so far;

(c) what is the number of applications which are still pending clearance and what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) the target date for the final disposal of all such pension claims?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRi BUTA SINGH); (a) to (d) There are 3 categories of freedom fighters who participated in the agitation against the feudal rule of Nizam of Hyderabad, namely;,

(i) the general category of freedom fighters who has participated while staying within the erstwhile Hyderabad State;

(ii) those who participated in the merger movement and suffered abscondence or internment/extern-ment but were unable to produce evidence and those who participated in the Camps set up on the borders of the erstwhile Hyderbad State during the merger movement; and

(iii) those who had participated in the Arya Samaj Movement of 1938-39.

As regards category (i), it is not possible to give the figures of number of applications received and sanctioned in respect of erstwhile Hyderabad State because districtwise figures are not maintained and parts of the erstwhile Nizam State of Hyderabad have since been merged into the State of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Ma-harastra as a result of Reorganisation of States.

As fop category (ii), about 1900O applications were received and the Non-Officiai Hyderabad Special Screening Committee set up for scrutinising such claims have recommended grant of pension in about 6B50 cases

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